

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 677 authorizes several additions to the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area through a combination of exchanges and acquisitions of both land and conservation easements.

If enacted, the legislation would add more than 2,700 acres of land to the boundary of the National Park and more than 7,000 acres to the boundary of the National Conservation Area while making other technical changes to the management of these areas.

The changes being made in this legislation are supported by the administration, and I am unaware of any controversy regarding this measure.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. UDALL).

(Mr. UDALL of Colorado asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman for yielding me time. I want to thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) for his work on behalf of this legislation today.

As a Coloradan but also as an American, I rise to tell the body what a beautiful and unique place the Black Canyon is. This bill which has already passed the Senate, would revise the boundary of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and the Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area in Colorado. It was introduced by our senior Senator, Senator BEN NIGHORSE CAMPBELL. A similar bill was introduced by our colleague here in the House and the chairman of our Subcommittee on Forest and Forest Health of the Committee on Resources, the gentleman from Colorado (Mr. MCINNIS).

They took the initial lead back in 1999 and 2000 in securing the enactment of the legislation that established the National Conservation Area and redesignated the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument as a national park. They deserve our special thanks today for their leadership and then also for making it possible for this bill to be on the House floor today.

The bill today authorizes additions to both the park and the National Conservation Area, the NCA. And according to the Interior Department, these transactions should meet the present and future land requirements for the park.

The present land owners are willing sellers and the legislation is also supported by the Montrose County Commissioners, the Montrose Chamber of Commerce, and the local and national land trusts involved in the project. So you can see it has widespread support.

The bill also provides for the expansion of the conservation area which is managed by the Bureau of Land Management, by the addition of about approximately 5,759 acres that were acquired by the Federal Government in February of 2000 from a willing seller through a land exchange. This acquisition was not completed in time to include the lands within the original conservation area boundaries, so we have come back to the Congress now to make that the law.

The parcel includes approximately five miles of the Gunnison River and provides important resource values and recreational opportunities.

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Finally, there are an additional 1,439 acres of adjacent BLM-managed public lands that are in the public estate, but would now be transferred over to the conservation area.

So, in conclusion, Mr. Speaker, this is a bipartisan, noncontroversial bill. It will add important lands to both the park and the conservation area, help the economy in that area, and also make sure that Americans of all stripes and backgrounds can enjoy an even greater section of this beautiful part of Colorado. So I would urge its adoption by the full House today.

Mr. MCINNIS. Mr. Speaker, In 1999, I introduced legislation that established this Park and National Conservation Area, so my love of this place and belief in its continued protection is obvious. As you know, Mr. Speaker, I am a strong believer in local consensus and the preservation of western values. The Park and NCA were established on those ideals, and I am pleased that the bill I bring before you today continues on that path.

The legislation was originally scheduled for a hearing in the Resources Committee last June, after Senator CAMPBELL successfully saw it through the Senate. It took a few additional months, however, because I wanted to ensure that the water rights involved with these land transactions would remain protected for the people of Colorado. After working with the landowners and The Conservation Fund, I am now comfortable with the commitment that the landowners have made and am eager to see this bill move forward.

As you know, Mr. Speaker, water rights in the West are vital to our livelihood and even the murmur of losing control of them is enough to start a stampede. That is why language has been included in this bill to guarantee that the Bureau of Reclamation retains jurisdiction and access to water delivery facilities. For nearly 100 years, the Uncompahgre Valley Water User's Association has done a great job providing water to the valley; I want to make sure they can continue to do so. My 1999 bill establishing the Park did not intend to affect the Bureau's jurisdiction in any way, and neither does this boundary modification.

The Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park and Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area is a national treasure to be enjoyed by all. The park's combination of geological wonders and diverse wildlife make it one of the most unique natural areas in North America. I am proud to represent the area and believe that this legislation will greatly benefit

those who live in the area and all who visit the Park.

I want to thank Senator CAMPBELL and the Resources Committee for their work on this bill. I close by urging all members to support this legislation, so it can move promptly to the President's desk and be signed into law.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, having no further speakers, I yield back all remaining time.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I yield back all my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. BOOZMAN). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 677.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AUTHORIZING EXCHANGE OF LANDS BETWEEN AN ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGE CORPORATION AND DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill (S. 924) to authorize the exchange of lands between an Alaska Native Village Corporation and the Department of the Interior, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read as follows:

S. 924

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS.

For the purposes of this Act, the term:

(1) "ANCSA" means the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 et seq.);

(2) "ANILCA" means the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (16 U.S.C. 3101 et seq.);

(3) "Calista" means the Calista Corporation, an Alaska Native Regional Corporation established pursuant to ANCSA;

(4) "Identified Lands" means approximately 10,943 acres of lands (including surface and subsurface estates) designated as "Proposed Village Site" on a map entitled "Proposed Newtok Exchange," dated September, 2002, and available for inspection in the Anchorage office of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;

(5) "limited warranty deed" means a warranty deed which is, with respect to its warranties, limited to that portion of the chain of title from the moment of conveyance from the United States to Newtok to and including the moment at which such title is validly reconveyed to the United States;

(6) "Newtok" means the Newtok Native Corporation, an Alaska Native Village Corporation established pursuant to ANCSA;

(7) "Newtok lands" means approximately 12,101 acres of surface estate comprising conveyed lands and selected lands identified as Aknerkochik on the map referred to in paragraph (4) and that surface estate selected by Newtok on Baird Inlet Island as shown on the map; and

(8) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior.

SEC. 2. LANDS TO BE EXCHANGED.

(a) LANDS EXCHANGED TO THE UNITED STATES.—If, within 180 days after the date of

enactment of this Act, Newtok expresses to the Secretary in writing its intent to enter into a land exchange with the United States, the Secretary shall accept from Newtok a valid, unencumbered conveyance, by limited warranty deed, of the Newtok lands previously conveyed to Newtok. The Secretary shall also accept from Newtok a relinquishment of irrevocable prioritized selections for approximately 4,956 acres for those validly selected lands not yet conveyed to Newtok.

(b) **LANDS EXCHANGED TO NEWTOK.**—In exchange for the Newtok lands conveyed and selections relinquished under subsection (a), the Secretary shall, subject to valid existing rights and notwithstanding section 14(f) of ANCSA, convey to Newtok the surface and subsurface estates of the Identified Lands. The conveyance shall be by interim conveyance. Subsequent to the interim conveyance, the Secretary shall survey identified Lands at no cost to Newtok and issue a patent to the Identified Lands subject to the provisions of ANCSA and this Act.

SEC. 3. CONVEYANCE.

(a) **TIMING.**—The Secretary shall issue interim conveyances pursuant to subsection 2(b) at the earliest possible time after acceptance of the Newtok conveyance and relinquishment of selections under subsection 2(a).

(b) **RELATIONSHIP TO ANCSA.**—Lands conveyed to Newtok under this Act shall be treated as having been conveyed under the provisions of ANCSA, except that the provisions of 14(c) and 22g of ANCSA shall not apply to these lands. Consistent with section 103(c) of ANILCA, these lands shall not be included as a portion of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge and shall not be subject to regulations applicable solely to public lands within this Conservation System Unit.

(c) **EFFECT ON ENTITLEMENT.**—Except as otherwise provided, nothing in this Act shall be construed to change the total acreage of land to which Newtok is entitled under ANCSA.

(d) **EFFECT ON NEWTOK LANDS.**—The Newtok Lands shall be included in the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge as of the date of acceptance of the conveyance of those lands from Newtok, except that residents of the Village of Newtok, Alaska, shall retain access rights to subsistence resources on those Newtok lands as guaranteed under section 811 of ANILCA (16 U.S.C. 3121), and to subsistence uses, such as traditional subsistence fishing, hunting and gathering, consistent with section 803 of ANILCA (16 U.S.C. 3113).

(e) **ADJUSTMENT TO CALISTA CORPORATION ANCSA ENTITLEMENT FOR RELINQUISHED NEWTOK SELECTIONS.**—To the extent that Calista subsurface rights are affected by this Act, Calista shall be entitled to an equivalent acreage of in lieu subsurface entitlement for the Newtok selections relinquished in the exchange as set forth in subsection 2(a) of this Act. This equivalent entitlement shall come from subsurface lands already selected by Calista, but which have not been conveyed. If Calista does not have sufficient subsurface selections to accommodate this additional entitlement, Calista Corporation is hereby authorized to make an additional in lieu selection for the deficient acreage from lands within the region but outside any conservation system unit.

(f) **ADJUSTMENT TO EXCHANGE.**—If requested by Newtok, the Secretary may consider and make adjustments to the exchange to meet the purposes of this Act, subject to all the same terms and conditions of this Act.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) and the gentleman

from New Mexico (Mr. UDALL) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Arizona?

There was no objection.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, S. 924 is sponsored by Senator LISA MURKOWSKI of the State of Alaska. This legislation provides for a land exchange between the Newtok Native Corporation and the United States.

Newtok is a village in western Alaska located on a river that is rapidly eroding. Within several years, experts believe the river will eventually wash away key areas of the village. Newtok is inhabited by the Yupik Eskimo people who still live a natural subsistence lifestyle and they exist below the poverty line.

In order to avoid the problems the eroding river is going to cause, local leaders have chosen to relocate Newtok to another site. This is by no means an easy process, and there are many steps to get this done. The first step is in the hands of the Congress.

Because the 19 million-acre Yukon National Wildlife Refuge surrounds the existing village and the site identified for the relocation, a land exchange is necessary. After much work and negotiations between the villagers, the corporation, the Fish and Wildlife Service, and the environmental community an agreement was worked out.

The land exchange described in S. 924 is the product of that compromise. It will enable Newtok to relocate once it has secured the funds necessary to do so, and the United States will acquire lands of high value for waterfowl habitat. More importantly, this legislation helps people who wish to continue living in the environment their ancestors have inhabited for thousands of years.

All sides involved should be commended for fashioning a good agreement that is noncontroversial. I urge passage of the bill.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. UDALL of New Mexico asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in support of S. 924. This legislation would ratify a land exchange negotiated between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Newtok Native Corporation.

The negotiation and resulting land exchange agreement was motivated by

the current state of the Newtok village site. The village is rapidly eroding and is threatened by flooding. The 300 residents of the Yupik Eskimo village of Newtok live a largely subsistence lifestyle, which is heavily dependent upon fish and wildlife resources of the Yukon delta area of western Alaska.

Under S. 924, the Fish and Wildlife Service would convey about 11,000 acres to the Newtok Native Corporation, which would allow the village to relocate to safer ground. It is my understanding that the Newtok Native Corporation intends to donate the lands received under the exchange to the community.

In return, the Fish and Wildlife Service will receive over 12,000 acres of corporation lands which will be managed in the future as part of the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge. In addition to the clear public interest in allowing the village to move to a safer location, the Fish and Wildlife Service will acquire high-priority lands for the refuge and, overall, considers this to be a fair exchange.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of my colleagues on this side of the aisle, we thank the Alaska delegation for this worthy legislation.

Mr. Speaker, having no additional speakers, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I have no other speakers, and I also yield back my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. RENZI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the Senate bill, S. 924.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the Senate bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GALISTEO BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES PROTECTION ACT

Mr. RENZI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 506) to provide for the protection of archaeological sites in the Galisteo Basin in New Mexico, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 506

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Galisteo Basin Archaeological Sites Protection Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSE.

(a) *FINDINGS.*—*The Congress finds that—*

(1) *the Galisteo Basin and surrounding area of New Mexico is the location of many well preserved prehistoric and historic archaeological resources of Native American and Spanish colonial cultures;*

(2) *these resources include the largest ruins of Pueblo Indian settlements in the United States, spectacular examples of Native American rock art, and ruins of Spanish colonial settlements; and*